

### REMARKS

The allowance of claims 1 - 9 is acknowledged. However, by the present amendment claims 1 - 9 have been cancelled without prejudice or disclaimer of the subject matter thereof and new claims 10 - 20 have been presented. Applicants note that new independent claim 10 corresponds to allowed independent claim 1 with additional features and new independent claim 15 corresponding to allowed independent claim 2 with additional features. The dependent claims correspond to the allowed dependent claims.

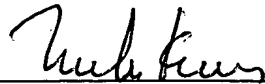
Also submitted herewith is an Information Disclosure Statement and consideration of the documents is requested.

In view of the above amendments and remarks, favorable consideration is requested.

To the extent necessary, applicants petition for an extension of time under 37 CFR 1.136. Please charge any shortage in the fees due in connection with the filing of this paper, including extension of time fees, to the deposit account of Antonelli, Terry, Stout & Kraus, LLP, Deposit Account No. 01-2135 (Case: 520.43080X00), and please credit any excess fees to such deposit account.

Respectfully submitted,

ANTONELLI, TERRY, STOUT & KRAUS, LLP



---

Melvin Kraus  
Registration No. 22,466

MK/jla  
(703) 312-6600